

REMARKS

This Supplemental Reply and Statement of Substance of the Interview is organized under appropriate subheadings for the convenience of the Examiner.

Amendments to Claims 56, 134, 136 and 140 and New Claim 167

Claims 56, 134, 136 and 140 have been amended and new Claim 167 has been added to more clearly define that which Applicants regard as the invention. Support for amendments to the claims and new claims can be found in the specification and Sequence Listing. Entry is respectfully requested.

Statement of the Substance of the Interview on May 29, 2012

The substance of the interview conducted on May 29, 2012, concerned an Office Action Made Final mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) on July 28, 2011, an Advisory Action in response to an Amendment After Final mailed from the USPTO on September 29, 2011 and a Reply filed with a Request for Continued Examination on October 28, 2011. An Interview Summary mailed from the USPTO on June 8, 2012 provided Examiner Zeman's summary of the interview.

At the beginning of the interview, Dr. Guarente generally described Applicants' invention, including identifying agents that alter NAD-dependent deacetylation activity of Sir2. Dr. Guarente and James Olesen, Esq. also described advantages of methods directed to identifying agents that alter NAD-dependent deacetylation activity of Sir2.

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, were discussed, specifically with respect to Claims 28-31, 56, 60-62, 64, 131-136 and 139-141. Amendments to the claims in response to the rejections were discussed. For example, amendments to the independent claim to clarify the fragment of Sir2 used in the claimed methods and amendments to dependent claims that further define the Sir2 protein or fragment of the Sir2 protein of the independent claims. Applicants agreed to incorporate similar amendments to the claims in related U.S. Application No. 12/209,847.

At the conclusion of the interview, the Examiner stated that he would consider Applicants' amendments and comments, and, in response to Applicants' Attorney's inquiry,

suggested Applicants file a Supplemental Reply to incorporate the claim amendments discussed in the interview.

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement


A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (SIDS) is being filed concurrently herewith. Entry of the SIDS is respectfully requested.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all pending claims meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and are in condition for allowance. It is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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